

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL, LEMON GROVE HOUSING AUTHORITY, LEMON
GROVE SANITATION DISTRICT BOARD, LEMON GROVE ROADWAY LIGHTING DISTRICT
BOARD, AND LEMON GROVE SUCCESSOR AGENCY
July 15, 2014**

Call to Order

Members present: Mary Sessom, Howard Cook, George Gastil, Jerry Jones, Racquel Vasquez.
Members absent: None.

City Staff present: Graham Mitchell, City Manager; Lt. Brock, Sheriff's Department; Dave DeVries, Principal Planner; Carol Dick, Development Services Director; Leon Firsht, City Engineer; Susan Garcia, City Clerk; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Mike James, Public Works Director; Rick Sitta, Fire Chief; and Cathleen Till, Finance Director.

Public Comment

John L. Wood commented on landscaping causing roadway sight issues and long term parking on City's roads.

Elizabeth Kole explained her safety concerns at Berry Street Park.

Bob Jones reported on the City's new website and agenda issues.

Jim Elliott introduced the owner of Lemon Grove's new International Market and reported that Friends of the Library has an endowment to support literacy.

Council Remarks and Announcements

Councilmember Gastil reported on the San Vicente Dam Raise Project.

Councilmember Vasquez attended Concerts in the Park and reported on Circulate San Diego.

Mayor Sessom attended SANDAG and Airport Authority meetings.

1. Consent Calendar

Mayor Sessom stated that a citizen has requested the item 1. D will be pulled for discussion.

Mr. Mitchell recused himself due to the proximity of his residence and the subject property in item 1. D.

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

July 1, 2014 Regular Meeting

B. Ratification of Payment Demands

C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

E. Denial of Claim

Action: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to approve the Consent Calendar items 1. A., B., C., and E., passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Cook, Gastil, Jones, Vasquez

1.D Approval of Valencia Final Map for Tentative Map TM0049 located at 1350 San Altos Place

On October 3, 2006, the Lemon Grove City Council adopted Resolution No. 2668 approving Tentative Map TM0049 for the 15.97 acre parcel located at 1350 San Altos Place in Lemon Grove.

San Altos Place, LLC, the owner of the parcel, has satisfied the conditions of approval for the proposed subdivision and requests approval of the Final Map for TM0049. The development is currently under construction. Performance bonds and subdivision agreements including all environmental monitoring requirements are in place to ensure that conditions of approval are met and the project is completed in the manner approved by City Council.

Public Speaker(s)

Lynn Malinowski reported that her residence is near this project and requested additional noticing and updates for her neighborhood.

Action: Motion by Mayor Sessom, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to approve Consent Calendar item 1. D passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Cook, Gastil, Jones, Vasquez

Resolution No. 2014 – 3271: Resolution of the City Council of Lemon Grove, California Approving a Final Map for Tentative Map TM0049

Mr. Mitchell rejoined the meeting.

2. Public Hearing to Consider General Plan Amendment GPA14-001 Adopting the 2014 Health & Wellness Element of the General Plan

Dave DeVries reported that the community received a grant from the Kaiser Permanente Foundation to develop and implement policies and strategies to increase physical activity, increase access to healthy foods, and decrease caloric intake among residents. This grant included funding to prepare a General Plan Health and Wellness Element (Element).

State law requires seven specific elements or chapters in a city's General Plan—Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise, and Safety. Although the Health & Wellness Element is not required, it is an optional chapter of the General Plan developed to address community health concerns.

The "Health and Wellness Plan" section describes what the City expects to achieve by completing the stated Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Programs and the steps to achieve its overall vision for health and wellness. The vision of the Element is "A Healthy Community through Physical and Social Connections." In order to achieve this Vision, there are four specific goals.

These goals will create a community that provides:

- Safe, connected neighborhoods,
- Collaborative and positive attitudes about healthy and active living,
- Access to healthy, affordable foods, and
- A wide range of healthy activities.

Mr. DeVries added that on June 30, 2014, the Planning Commission recommended that the City Council adopt the 2014 Healthy & Wellness Element with the following revisions, outlined below for City Council consideration in underline and strikeout format:

1. Revise Policy 5 of Goal 1, Objective 1.1 as follows:

Allow and encourage ~~for~~ art, dance, exercise, and music in public spaces throughout the community.

2. Revise Policy 1 of Goal 1, Objective 1.2 as follows:

Develop a comprehensive network of bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the City that connect neighborhoods to the regional bicycle and walking network and to key destinations (e.g., schools, transit, commercial centers, and parks). Include Designate pedestrian- and bicycle-only routes (e.g., trails, paths, and boulevards) and include connections through cul-de-sacs and "dead end" streets. Pursue grant funding that will help implement bicycle and pedestrian route improvements.

3. Add Policy 6 to Goal 2, Objective 2.1 as follows:

Recognize businesses, community members and organizations, and/or stakeholders that facilitate "Healthy Eating and Active Living" activities in the community through programs that celebrate and award that participation.

4. Revise Policy 1 of Goal 4, Objective 4.1 as follows:

Incorporate additional amenities into existing parks, while considering needs for a wide range of ages and abilities, to improve comfort, increase opportunities to exercise, ~~increase use by persons with a range of ages and abilities,~~ and promote safety.

5. Revise Program 3 as follows:

Update the Municipal Code to include regulations that promote physical activity, walkability, ~~and bicycle-friendly design,~~ and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and that prohibit the sale of single-serving, off-sale, alcoholic beverages. Promote visually appealing building facades with windows, awnings, and other architectural features that create an interesting pedestrian environment. Encourage development measures for building and site design to promote physical activity.

6. Revise Program 4 as follows:

Prioritize capital improvement projects based on enhancing existing parks and the sidewalk network with emphasis on adding exercise facilities and providing safe pedestrian and bicycle routes to schools, commercial centers, public transit, parks, and regional destinations. Encourage streetscape amenities (e.g., shade trees, street furniture, public art, decorative sidewalks, pedestrian-scale lighting, exercise facilities, and directional signs).

The County Health and Human Services Agency asked that policies related to electronic smoking devices be included. Policies related to electronic smoking devices are currently being reviewed as a part of a “smoke shop” ordinance evaluation. Also, it was suggested that specific policies directed solely at the elderly population are considered based on the expanding elderly population. Current proposed policies within the Element are meant to address all population segments, but does not specifically highlight or focus on an elderly population.

Mayor Sessom opened the public hearing.

Public Speaker(s)

John L. Wood commented on traffic calming methods, speed humps, and the width of Central Avenue.

Action: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to close the public hearing and adopt the resolution as amended passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Cook, Gastil, Jones, Vasquez

James Lough recommended that the City Council receive a copy of the amended resolution to determine its accuracy. If a portion is inaccurate, staff will amend accordingly and place on the next Consent Calendar for approval.

3. Public Safety Focus Group

Graham Mitchell reported that earlier this year, the City Council established priorities and a work plan for calendar year 2014. One of the tasks identified at that time was the creation of a focus group to address public safety in the community.

During the City Council priorities workshop, some of the potential topics for the focus group included:

- community needs,
- public safety perceptions,
- general homelessness issues,
- code enforcement,
- crime free multi-housing programming, and
- use of the Sheriff sub-station.

In preparing for this staff report, staff identified additional topics, such as:

- safety in commercial corridors,
- aggressive panhandling,
- homeless encampments,
- sober living facilities,
- traffic and pedestrian safety,
- drug/alcohol usage, and
- safety in City parks.

If the application is approved by the City Council, staff will post information on the City’s Facebook/Twitter accounts, the City’s webpage, the Lemon Grove Patch, provide copies at the front counter of City Hall, and reach out to community groups. After the application deadline, staff will present focus group candidates to the City Council for appointment.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

After discussion, the City Council concurred with Mr. Mitchell's recommendations for the focus group discussion topics and authorized the release of the public safety focus group application.

4. City Council Salary

Graham Mitchell explained that during the December 17, 2013 meeting, the City Council received a report that recommended an adjustment to the City Council's salary and auto allowance. The December 17th staff report presented a recommendation based on a review of the City Council's historic compensation rates and the consumer price index since the last salary adjustment in 2008—six years ago. Since the December 17th presentation, the City Council has deferred this item on several occasions with direction to return at later dates. The City Council most recently discussed this item during its May 20, 2014, budget discussion.

Currently, members of the City Council receive monthly salaries of \$705 and are eligible to receive a \$150 monthly car allowance. The Mayor's monthly salary is set at \$1,234 and is eligible to receive the \$150 monthly car allowance. Prior to the dissolution of the redevelopment agency, members of the City Council received a \$30 stipend per Community Development Agency meeting.

Mr. Mitchell noted that pursuant to Government Code Section 36516, a City Council may increase its salary by a maximum of five percent per year from the operative date of the last adjustment. The Government Code also specifies that when the rate of compensation is determined by ordinance, the new rate becomes effective following the subsequent election cycle.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Motion by Mayor Sessom, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, approve an adjustment to the City Council salaries failed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil
Noes: Cook, Jones, Vasquez

Motion by Mayor Sessom, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to adopt the resolution increasing the City Council car allowance failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil
Noes: Cook, Jones, Vasquez

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 8: 25 p.m.

Susan Garcia
Susan Garcia, City Clerk